

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OPIC-03 COME-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00
XMB-02 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15
STR-07 CEA-01 /084 W
-----130239 240034Z /75

R 231119Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 089

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DEP PASS OPIC FOR ACTION. ALSO PASS COMMERCE AND AID

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EINV, TS
SUBJ: OPIC STATUS; API PLANS TO OPEN INVESTMENT PROMOTION
OFFICE IN NEW YORK; FIRESTONE PLANT

1. PRESIDENT TIJANI CHELLI OF TUNISIAN INVESTMENT PROMOTION AGENCY (API) TOLD ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR FEBRUARY 16 THAT API'S PLANS FOR INDEPENDENT INVESTMENT PROMOTION OFFICE IN NEW YORK ARE WELL ADVANCED. API HAS SECURED BUDGET AND HAS REQUESTED APPROVAL OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. CHELLI, NOTING INVESTMENT WAS A PRINCIPAL FOCUS OF US-TUNISIAN JOINT COMMISSION, ASKED EMBASSY ADVICE AS TO WHAT SORT OF COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE API'S NEW OFFICE MIGHT HOPE TO RECEIVE FROM USG, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF REPORT FROM GOT'S NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVE AZOUZ ENNIFAR THAT OPIC--WITH WHICH API HAS HAD MUCH VALUED RELATIONSHIP--WAS "WINDING DOWN ITS ACTIVITIES FOR GOOD".

2. E/C COUNSELOR REPLIED THAT HE BELIEVED REPORTS OF OPIC'S

DEMISE WERE PREMATURE. HE PROMISED TO CONFIRM STATUS AND
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OUTLOOK. SAID EMBASSY SHARED API'S BELIEF THAT PROSPECTS FOR U.S. INVESTMENT, WHILE SLOW IN GESTATING, STILL WERE PROMISING AND JUSTIFIED ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION OF GOT RESOURCES. WELL-STAFFED API OFFICE COULD MAKE KEY CONTRIBUTION TO THIS EFFORT. E/C COUNSELOR GAVE NO ENCOURAGEMENT THERE WOULD BE ANY POSSIBILITY OF USG FINANCIAL OR STAFFING HELP FOR API OFFICE, BUT SAID RECORD SHOWED THAT USG AGENCIES--LED BY OPIC

IN INVESTMENT FIELD--HAD CONSISTENTLY BEEN RESPONSIVE WITH
ADVICE AND INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF GOT EFFORTS.

3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE (A) CLARIFICATION OF OPIC STATUS AND
(B) ANY SUGGESTIONS AS TO USG COOPERATION THAT API MIGHT
EXPECT FOR ITS NEW YORK OFFICE. (WE WOULD SUGGEST NOT RAISING
SUBJECT WITH ENNIFAR SINCE IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT API BELIEVES
IT COULD OPERATE MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH INDEPENDENT OFFICE NOT
COMING UNDER HIS JURISDICTION AND IS SEEKING SUCH ARRANGEMENT.)

4. ON SEPARATE OPIC TOPIC, WE UNDERSTAND FROM BOTH API AND
FIRESTONE THAT GOT MAY THIS WEEK APPROVE PROJECT FOR NEW RADIAL
TIRE PLANT NEAR TUNIS. WOULD APPRECIATE ADVICE AS TO STATUS
OF ANY APPLICATION FOR OPIC INVESTMENT INSURANCE.
MULCAHY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE PROMOTION, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TUNIS01362
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780085-0013
Format: TEL
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780220/aaaaaqkc.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2f2d08d1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3498231
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OPIC STATUS; API PLANS TO OPEN INVESTMENT PROMOTION OFFICE IN NEW YORK; FIRESTONE PLANT
TAGS: EINV, TS, US, OPIC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2f2d08d1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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